

Abstract

Disclosed herein are methods for treating vascular disorders in mammals. The methods involve administering one or more agents selected from the group consisting of a heat shock protein, a therapeutically effective fragment and a therapeutically effective analog of a heat shock protein in a form suitable for mucosal administration. In some embodiments the heat shock protein of the method is mycobacterial HSP65. In some embodiments the heat shock protein is human HSP60. In some embodiments the heat shock protein is chlamydial HSP60. The method is of particular value in the treatment of atherosclerosis. Also disclosed are compositions useful for treating vascular disorders in mammals. The compositions include one or more agents selected from the group consisting of heat shock protein, therapeutically effective fragments and therapeutically effective analogs of said heat shock protein in aerosol or oral form. In some embodiments the heat shock protein of the composition is mycobacterial HSP65. In some embodiments the heat shock protein of the method is human HSP60. In some embodiments the heat shock protein is chlamydial HSP60. The composition is of particular value in the treatment of atherosclerosis.